

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 58  
By West

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Cory Cothron and  
Kenneth Randolph for heroic action.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to help others who were in need, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, with their valiant efforts of September 23, 2000, Cory Cothron and Kenneth Randolph took their place in the tradition of the many brave men and women in Tennessee history; and

WHEREAS, during a paddling trip on the Collins River in McMinnville, Boy Scout Troop 263 was faced with an unexpected and possibly lethal situation; a strong current overwhelmed scout Jeffery Renfro, capsizing his kayak and pinning his head beneath a rock in the water; and

WHEREAS, as the adult chaperones called out for help, Cory and Kenneth had already burst into action; diving into the water, the boys navigated the current and reached Jeffery's side, only to find out that his safety strap would not release; and

WHEREAS, remaining calm in the face of adversity, Cory and Kenneth worked quickly to neutralize the dangerous potential of the current; while Kenneth held Jeffery's head above water, Cory returned the kayak to its upright position; and

WHEREAS, talking with their friend to keep him calm, the fourteen-year-old boys pulled Jeffery to the safety of a nearby island, where they checked him for injuries; due in large part to the swift action of Cory and Kenneth, there were no significant wounds; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Boy Scout motto, "Be prepared," the two scouts instantaneously recognized the danger of the situation, summoned the necessary courage, and took action that saved the life of their fellow scout; their parents and Scout Master Jim Miller can be proud of the two young men and of their own role in teaching the boys the qualities of loyalty, helpfulness, and bravery that are required by the Scout law; and

WHEREAS, the qualities of the ideal Boy Scout which are embodied in Cory and Kenneth not only precipitated their heroic actions on September 23, 2000, but also surely bode well for their success in every future endeavor; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Cory Cothron and Kenneth Randolph from Boy Scout Troop 263 for their heroic gallantry, offer our thanks for a difficult job well done, and wish them every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.